

## Bike Transit Facility - Union Station

The following pages present the conceptual design for the Union Station Bike Transit Center (BTC). In brief, the bike station will provide bicycle parking, rentals, repairs and retail accessories in a distinctive structure at the west end of Union Station. Similar facilities have been in existence in other countries for many years and now the United States is beginning to understand the value of this alternative means of transportation. Recently similar facilities have been built in California, Seattle, and Chicago. This will be the first of its kind on the East Coast. The project objectives are to alleviate the inadequate bicycle parking at Union Station, increase the viability of transit for residents and visitors, and enhance the appearance of the west end of Union Station.

The bike center at Union Station is strategically located where thousands of commuters, neighbors and visitors pass through on a daily basis. The grand glass and plaster vaults and arches of Union Station as well as the details of the bronze window mullions, grills, and light fixtures inspire the design. Technology of bicycle design and their accessories contribute to the contemporary nature of the bike center.

Bicycles are a “green” means of transportation and their place of storage and repair is designed to use as little energy as possible. Bike storage will be open-air, although secure and protected from the elements. Only the retail space will be conditioned with climate control.

The bike center will help restore the plaza that did exist on the west side of Union Station prior to the removal of the train room along the north edge in the 1970's. The new plaza will help redefine this area into a space which welcomes pedestrians and bicyclists.

The BTC design is intended to look toward the future with contemporary architecture that is respectful to the environment, the context and to the history of this fabulous city, focusing on key elements from its neighbor, Union Station.

## Introduction

Proposed Bicycle Transit Center  
Union Station, Washington DC